



Testimony of Eric W. Gjede  
Assistant Counsel, CBIA  
Before the Committee on Labor and Public Employees  
March 3, 2016

**Testifying in opposition to HB 5378  
AN ACT CONCERNING THE STANDARD RATE OF WAGES**

Good afternoon Senator Gomes, Representative Tercyak, Senator Hwang, Representative Rutigliano and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. My name is Eric Gjede and I am assistant counsel at the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA), which represents more than 10,000 large and small companies throughout the state of Connecticut.

CBIA is opposed to HB 5378.

HB 5378 seeks to require that "security services" personnel be paid the standard rate of wages, reclassifies certain individuals as light cleaners, as well as requires automatic increases to the standard rate of wages based on increases to the consumer price index.

Simply put, this bill essentially forces changes upon to existing service agreements. These changes should be subject of negotiations between union representatives and management, not unilaterally imposed by statute.

I urge the committee to take no action on HB 5378